

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 OES-06

DODE-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 JUSE-00 SAJ-01 PM-04 TRSE-00

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R 221625Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0605

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 12369

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, TECH, IAEA, GW, IN

SUBJ: NUCLEAR EXPORTS TO INDIA -- HEAVY WATER

REF: (A) MOSCOW 11192 (NOTAL)

(B) STATE 178971 (NOTAL)

(C) BONN 11816 (NOTAL)

1. ROUGET (CHIEF, ATOMIC ENERGY SECTION, FRG FOREIGN OFFICE) INFORMED EMBASSY'S S&T COUNSELOR THAT FONOFF HAD RECEIVED REPORT FOLLOWING DEMARCHE MADE BY GERMAN EMBASSY IN MOSCOW (PARA 4, REF C AND REF A) ABOUT USSR SALE OF HEAVY WATER TO INDIA.

2. SOVIETS PROFESSED TO BE ASTONISHED THAT FRG HAD HEARD ABOUT THEIR PLANS TO SHIP 55 TONS OF HEAVY WATER TO INDIA. THEY IMPLIED THAT HEAVY WATER HAD NOT YET BEEN DELIVERED. ACCORDING TO ROUGET'S ACCOUNT, SOVIETS SEEMED SOMEWHAT IRRITATED ABOUT FRG APPROACH.

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GERMANS ATTEMPTED TO DETERMINE WHETHER USSR WILL

REQUIRE EXPLICIT NO-PNE ASSURANCES, AND WHETHER IAEA SAFEGUARDS WOULD BE REQUIRED. IF SO, GERMANS ASKED WHETHER SOVIETS WOULD DEMAND SAFEGUARDS ON ALL REACTORS IN WHICH THEIR HEAVY WATER MIGHT BE PLACED AND ON ALL PLUTONIUM AND SUBSEQUENT GENERATIONS PRODUCED IN THESE REACTORS.

3. SOVIETS WERE NON-COMMITTAL AND RESPONDED ONLY THAT THEY WOULD ADHERE TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE GUIDELINES.

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: APPARENTLY FRG LEARNED OF PLANNED SOVIET SALE OF HEAVY WATER TO INDIA FROM LOCAL INDIA NEWSPAPER REPORTS. FRG MAY RAISE THIS QUESTION AT NEXT APPROPRIATE NSG MEETING. ROUGET EXPLAINED THAT FRG IS COMING CLOSER TO BRITISH VIEW THAT PROCEDURES REQUIRED BY THE NSG GUIDELINES ARE INTENDED TO APPLY TO ENTIRE FUEL CYCLE OF RECIPIENT COUNTRY AND SHOULD BE DESIGNED, (EXTENDED IF POSSIBLE) TO IMPLEMENT NPT CONCEPTS WITH RESPECT TO NON-NPT COUNTRIES. ACCORDINGLY, ROUGET BELIEVES THAT SAFEGUARDS REQUIRED ON THE SUPPLY OF HEAVY WATER MUST BE PARTICULARLY COMPREHENSIVE. FOR THIS REASON, AS NOTED IN PARA 5, REF C, FRG HAD REFUSED PERMISSION FOR EXPORT OF 45 TONS OF HEAVY WATER FROM KARLSRUHE TO INDIA.

5. EMBASSY COMMENT II: DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL RATHER PUZZLING AND UNCOOPERATIVE ATTITUDE DISPLAYED BY OFFICIALS FROM FRG MINISTRY FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY (BMFT) WHEN EMBASSY ATTEMPTED TO ACQUIRE DATA ABOUT UTILIZATION OF EXCESS GERMAN HEAVY WATER (BONN 03157). IT NOW SEEMS CLEAR THAT THIS POSSIBLE SHIPMENT TO INDIA MAY BE THE EXPLANATION FOR BMFT ATTITUDE AT THAT TIME. AS WE HAVE NOTED BEFORE, BMFT AND ECONOMICS MINISTRY DO NOT RPT NOT SHARE FRG FONOFF ATTITUDE TOWARD SAFEGUARDS.
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